

## **Massachusetts National Guard**

Public Affairs 50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757

## Media Advisory

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October 26, 2006

## Area Air Ambulance Soldiers Return from Overseas Deployment

WESTFIELD, Mass. – Twenty-five Soldiers from C Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 126<sup>th</sup> Aviation (Air Ambulance) Regiment, Massachusetts National Guard, will return to Barnes Air National Guard Base Saturday, Oct. 28, 2006 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., after serving a year-long tour in Iraq.

Comprised of pilots, medics, crewmembers and mechanics, the unit's mission was to provide medical evacuation of personnel, supplies and equipment, perform search and rescue operations, and crash support.

"Medical support and evacuation is critical to the safety and well being of our Soldiers. I'm very proud of these Soldiers and I'm glad they're back safe," said Brig. Gen. Oliver J. Mason Jr., the Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard.

The Soldiers are from the Springfield, Amherst, Westfield, Marshfield, Waltham, Great Barrington, Lee, Plymouth, Chicopee, Barre, West Yarmouth, Lenox, South Hadley, Sandwich, Dracut, Wilton, Belchertown and Watertown area and their arrival will be brief and informal. Our goal is to reunite the Soldiers with their families. A formal awards and homecoming ceremony will be announced at a later date.

## \*\*\*ARRIVAL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE\*\*\* MEDIA MUST REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT BY CALLING THE NUMBER ABOVE

WHAT: Arrival of C Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 126<sup>th</sup> AVN (Air Ambulance) Massachusetts

**Army National Guard** 

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 28, 2006, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

WHERE: AASF #2, Barnes Air National Guard Base, 179 Falcon Dr., Westfield MA 01085

Public Affairs Office Phone: (508) 233-6561 Fax: (508) 233-6585